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Screen: '2nd Best Secret Agent' Isn't

Poor British Spy Film at Neighborhoods

By BOSLEY CROWTHER

THE British who made the spy picture, "The 2nd Best Secret Agent in the Whole Wide World," are boasting a bit. Their casual hero in this rankly imitative James Bond film is a cheap amateur alongside of Mr. Bond or Harry Palmer or our man Flint, and the picture itself is a small cup of very tepid melodramatic tea.

It has to do with this agent, Charles Vine (Tom Adams), who is assigned to guard with his life a Swedish scientist who comes to London to sell "negative gravity." Naturally, the violent efforts of enemy agents to kidnap or kill the scientist require that Vine cling closely to him and almost make the

The Casts

THE 2ND BEST SECRET AGENT IN THE WHOLE WIDE WORLD, screenplay by Howard Griffiths and Lindsay Shonteff; directed by Mr. Shonteff; produced by S. J. H. Ward. An Embassy Pictures release. At neighborhood theaters. Running time: 96 minutes.

Charles Vine.....	Tom Adams
Henrik Jacobsen.....	Karel Stepanek
Julia Lindberg.....	Veronica Hurst
Masterman.....	Peter Bull
Rockwell.....	John Arnatt
Walter Pickering.....	Francis De Wolff
Tetchnikov.....	Felix Felton
The Russian Commissar.....	George Pastell

and
THE LITTLE NUNS, screen play by Franco Castellano and Giuseppe Moccia; directed by Luciano Salce; produced by Ferruccio Bruscosco for Hesperia Cinematografia S.p.A. Released by Embassy Pictures Corp. At neighborhood theaters. Running time: 101 minutes.

Sister Celeste.....	Catherine Spaak
Livio Bertana.....	Amedeo Nazzari
Mother Rachele.....	Didi Perego
Souagna.....	Umberto D'Orsi
Damiano, the orphan.....	Sandro Bruni
Elena.....	Sylvia Koscina
Bertana's secretary.....	Annie Gorassini
Mr. Balistucchi.....	Alberto Bonucci

sacrifice. The assignment, also requires him to limit his activities with the girls, which seems to annoy him

Nuns Confront Airline in Italian Picture

much more than jeopardizing his life.

That's it, and there's nothing about it to command more attention here. The director was, Lindsay Shonteff, and the film is an Embassy release.

Also in neighborhood theaters with it is a totally inappropriate Italian film, called "The Little Nuns," which tells a story of a Mother Superior and a young sister who go to Rome to try to persuade Alitalia not to fly planes over their convent every day. Didi Perego and Catherine Spaak play these sticky sweet roles, and Amedeo Nazzari is the airline's general manager who is eventually browbeaten by them. Luciano Salce directed. It has dreary dubbed English dialogue.